

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-13 cancelled

14. (new) A method of treating an allergic condition in a patient i comprising administering a composition comprising an amount of Interleukin-21 ("IL-21") to the patient that is effective to treat the allergic condition.

15. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the allergic condition is asthma.

16. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the allergic condition is an allergic condition of the skin.

17. (new) The method of claim 14, wherein the allergic condition is allergic rhinitis.

18. (new) A method of treating a parasitic disease in a patient comprising administering an amount of Interleukin-21 ("IL-21") to the patient that is effective to treat the parasitic condition.

19. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the parasitic disease is a helminthic infection.

20. (new) A method of inducing a protective eosinophil-mediated response in a patient comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of an IL-21 polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is least 70% identical to SEQ ID NO:2 and is capable of inducing a protective eosinophil-mediated response.

21. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the IL-21 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

22. (new) The method of claim 21, wherein the IL-21 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to residues 30 to 162 of SEQ ID NO:2.

23. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the eosinophil-mediated response includes reduction of an allergic reaction in the patient.

24. (new) The method of claim 23, wherein the method is applied as a treatment for an allergic condition in the patient.

25. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the allergic condition is asthma.

26. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the allergic condition is an allergic condition of the skin.

27. (new) The method of claim 24, wherein the allergic condition is allergic rhinitis.

28. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the method is applied as a treatment for a parasitic infection in the patient.

29. (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the parasitic disease is a helminthic infection.

30. (new) The method of claim 25, wherein the IL-21 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

31. (new) The method of claim 30, wherein the IL-21 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to residues 30 to 162 of SEQ ID NO:2.

32. (new) The method of claim 29, wherein the IL-21 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:2.

33. (new) The method of claim 32, wherein the IL-21 polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% identical to residues 30 to 162 of SEQ ID NO:2.